

# WEEKLY TALLAHASSEEAN

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## WEST FLA. SEMINARY

Commencement Exercises for  
1900-1

## THE MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Ever Experienced by this Institution  
—The Deba es.

The West Florida Seminary (Seminary West of the Suwannee) commencement exercises this year mark the close of the most successful term in the history of this institution, and the exercises have been correspondingly interesting and instructive. We regret, therefore, that they came at a time when it was impossible for us to do them justice in these columns, crowded with winding up the work for the Legislature as we are.

The exercises were opened Sunday night at the Methodist Church, by the preaching of the Baccalaureate sermon by the pastor, Rev. W. E. H. Mabry. His text was: "He was a faithful man, and feared God above many." The subject, as the text indicates, was faithfulness to God, to ourselves, and to all our duties in life.

Monday night at Munro's opera house, the Platonic Debating Society contested for the Winthrop medal. The question debated was: "Resolved, That Cuba should be annexed to the United States." Messrs. Guy Louis Winthrop and Robert Bryan McCord were the speakers for the affirmative, and Messrs. Francis Flagg Coles and William Harry Provence for the negative. Their arguments were forceful, logical and showed careful training. The Judges Hon. H. E. Day, Rev. W. E. H. Mabry and Hon. W. N. Sheats, awarded the prize, a handsome gold medal, to Mr. McCord. Mr. Francis Bayard Winthrop, ex-president of the society, presided, and excellent selections of music were rendered by Miss Randolph and Miss Provence; and a vocal solo by Miss Buchholz was a fitting termination of this part of the exercises. Then came the annual address by Rev. W. H. Carter, rector of St. John's Church, and the awarding of the medal. During the entire evening the weather had been dreadfully bad, but notwithstanding this, a large audience assembled and gave the participants in the contest close attention all through.

Tuesday night the Anaxagorean Society debate took place at the opera house. The condition of the weather had improved to a marked degree, and likewise the size of the audience. Judge W. B. Lamar, who is an honorary member of the society, presided during the evening, and the same judges who acted Monday night were again on the stage. The question debated was: "Resolved, That the United States should have no part in the partition of China." Messrs. William Bloxham Crawford and Julian Howard represented the affirmative, and Messrs. Asa B. Clark and William Munro McIntosh the negative. The same careful training which manifested itself the night before was again everywhere evident, the young men all acquitting themselves in a most creditable manner. Mr. Clark was the winner of the medal. At the conclusion of the arguments Mr. Gaston Day delighted the audience with an instrumental solo.

Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock the undergraduate exercises were held. They were opened with prayer by Rev. S. M. Provence, followed by Mr. B. A. McGinniss with a masterly discussion of the Dreyfus case. Miss Alice Apthorp showed the birth, growth and advancement of American literature, and delighted the audience with our history in that respect as well as her ability to handle the subject. Napoleon Bonaparte was Mr. Francis B. Winthrop's subject, and the manner with which he held the attention of the audience on an overworked theme demonstrated great talent on his part. Miss Henrietta Ames handled "Wonders of Nature" in a very dignified and pleasing manner. Mr. Gaston Day tersely reviewed English literature, sketching its evolution from the earliest to the present day in a manner that convinced his hearers of his knowledge of the subject, as well as his ability as a speaker. Mr. E. G. Johnson dwelt upon "A Lost

Eden—Cuba," showing its condition and unfitness for self-government, his arguments being conclusive and convincing. Mr. A. H. Wharton, Jr., followed with "Reflections upon our Present Conditions," that demonstrated our greatness as a nation, but warned us at the same time of some growing evils under our system of government, such as "trusts," the resultant elevation of the few and the degradation of the many, etc., that grow out of them. Miss Mary Shutan then cleverly portrayed "Play and Its Significance." Following this Mr. F. A. Hathaway handled the more momentous question "Public Education," making an earnest and able plea for a compulsory system in this State. Last but by no means least was Mr. W. B. Crawford's eulogy of "Dixie's Uncrowned King," in which he touched all hearts with a glowing tribute to the president of the Confederacy. The exercises were interspersed with excellent music.

In connection with this occurred the first contest of the West Florida Seminary Oratorical Association for the honor of representing the institution at the Florida Inter-Collegiate Oratorical Association. Only Messrs. F. B. Winthrop, F. B. Hathaway and W. B. Crawford entered for this honor, and it fell to the latter. It is considered a very high compliment to the young man, for he had foemen worthy of their steel, and if he does not capture the T.-U. and C. medal at Jacksonville, it will be a surprise to many of his friends.

Last night the graduating class exercises were held, and long before the hour for commencing, the opera house was filled to overflowing, many being turned away for want of standing room. The exercises commenced with prayer by Rev. W. E. H. Mabry. The graduating class and their subjects were as follows: Miss Leila Jackson, "Southern Poets"; Mr. Asa B. Clark, "America for Americans"; Miss Bessie M. Saxon, "The Master Touch." Their subjects were handled in a masterly manner, and created great enthusiasm.

Hon. W. H. Ellis, of Quincy, delivered the annual address in his usual happy manner, being carefully followed all through by the large audience.

An instrumental solo by Miss Ball and a vocal solo by Miss Buchholz also added much to the pleasure of the evening.

President Murphree then announced the award of the following medals, and Governor Jennings made the speech presenting them:

Senior Class—A. B. Clark, 88.7 per cent; Junior Class—Gaston Day, 93 per cent; Sophomore Class—Henrietta Ames, 85 per cent; First year High School, Minnie Sauls, 92.3 per cent; Second year High School—Bessie Damon, 90.4 per cent; Third year High School, Birshe McGinniss, 91.8 per cent; Fleming Elocution medal—A. B. Clark; Leon Academy medal—Fenton Davis, 99.67 per cent.

Col. John A. Henderson, President of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary, in a few complimentary remarks, presented diplomas to the graduating class, and the school year at the Seminary passed into history.

## WASHINGTON BUDGET.

Washington, June 1.—The event of the week has, of course, been the extraordinary decision of the Supreme Court—extraordinary not because it was decided contrary to the hopes of at least half the people of the United States, but because of the wide divergence of opinion amongst the Justices. Broadly speaking, four of these held that the Constitution followed the flag in all cases of annexation, and four that Congress had full powers to control all territories of the United States, irrespective of the Constitution. One, Justice Brown, joined with the first four in regard to cases that arose before Congress took action in regard to Porto Rico, and with the last four in cases arising after that event. It is thought extremely doubtful whether such a decision so rendered, will command respect or will stand the test of time. Based, as it is, on a bare majority of one, protested against by all the rest of the court as overthrowing the basis of our Constitutional law, can it, it is asked, be said to settle even the one special point it decides, to say nothing of the momentous issues it throws into dispute? In short, can it endure permanently and withstand the attacks that time and its own weakness are sure to bring? Meanwhile

the Court has adjourned for four months, leaving the Philippines cases and the power of Congress to order the collection of duties on United States goods shipped into Porto Rico hanging in the air. The Court, be it remembered, decided the "first Dooley case," concerning importations into Porto Rico from this country before the passage of the Porto Rican Act, adversely to the Government. It did not decide the "second Dooley case," which arose after that act, at all. The inference is that the Court is badly divided on this question. The stumbling block of course, is whether such duties do not amount to an export tax on goods shipped from the United States. Four Justices of the Court have held that all of the revenue portion of the Foraker Act was unconstitutional. If, therefore, one more Justice who believed that the rest of the Foraker Act was unconstitutional should happen to take the notion that duties levied in Porto Rico were to all intents and purposes a burden or tax upon exports of the United States, then a decision against the Government would become necessary. Altogether, the matter is left in such a state that it will take dozens of other decisions before any one can be sure just what the Court does hold.

The announcement by Senator Lodge that he will, if appointed to the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, introduce a resolution looking to the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, has frightened the anglo-manics in the Cabinet and the railway interests which have been using the treaty to cloak their opposition to any canal at all. Mr. Lodge can only become chairman by the decision of his two seniors, Frye and Cullom, to stay at the heads of the important committee over which they now preside. The chances are, however, that one of them will be induced to give up his present place in order to keep Lodge from his abrogating act. Senator Cullom has come out in an interview in which he opposes Mr. Lodge's plan, and shows plainly that nothing will be done if he becomes chairman. He says: "I am in favor of abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty by agreement, as this is the only way in which it can be done properly. It must be remembered that a treaty is a solemn agreement between two nations, and merely because one party to it becomes dissatisfied it has no right to break the agreement abruptly. To abrogate the treaty by legislative enactment is a forcible and improper manner of escaping the carrying out of an agreement which was entered into in good faith. The later course may be a cause for war." This is the same old story we have been listening to for so long.

For some reason or other, Japan's imports of cotton in the last year have fallen off about 85 per cent, as compared with those of the preceding year. This fact appears from a report which has just reached the Treasury Bureau of Statistics. It shows a steady increase in the importations of Japan in 1900 over those of the preceding year, though in raw cotton there has been a marked decrease. Japan's importations of raw cotton in 1899 were large. Owing to the higher price in 1900 and the large stock of American cotton laid in during 1899, her imports of that article from the United States in the nine months ended with March, 1901, have been but \$1,729,580 in value, as against \$11,517,968 in the corresponding months of the fiscal year 1900. As a consequence, the total figures of American exports to Japan show a material decrease, chargeable almost exclusively to the single item of cotton.

The chisel, the trowel and the clever fingers of modelers are busy now in the new committee rooms at the Capitol. The sound of hammers and saws can be heard all through the building, but no one is allowed to see what is going on. The corridors into which the rooms open have been closed by temporary partitions, and the doors are locked. The workmen just at present are putting in the ornamental plaster work on the ceilings, which, it is said, will be elaborate. There will be large centre-pieces above the chandeliers, surrounded with lighter modeled work running to the corners of the rooms. The color scheme has not been worked out yet, and will not be until each committee chairman has expressed his wishes. The probability is, however, that there will be a good deal of gold used, and if so the effect, in

combination with the marble columns and the polished stone trimmings used will be almost palatial.

## THE EXPOSITION.

Buffalo, June 1.—Virginia's exhibit of apples is attractively displayed in the Horticulture Building, and general regret is expressed that Richmond are fed by the products of her fine tobacco here. Other cities which cannot compare with the capital of the Old Dominion as tobacco manufacturing centres, have spent hundreds of dollars in exhibiting to Pan-America what they can do in this direction. As the factories of Richmond are fed by the products of the rich gold tobacco belt of North Carolina, it would have paid the two States to have had a full exhibit here. Perhaps it is not yet too late, and if one or two energetic men will take hold of it now, the Exposition authorities will cordially co-operate with them.

Alabama made an appropriation of \$5,000 for the Pan-American Exposition. The State's Commissioners have been on the ground less than a week, and they did not begin to install their products until Saturday, but the work was all finished by Monday night. The commission is composed of three members: R. B. Poole, J. C. Adams and R. W. Gorman, the last of whom will remain in constant charge of the exhibit through the exposition period. Mr. Gorman is a newspaper man from Opelika, Alabama. The installation in the Agriculture Building is very artistic and for the amount of money used makes a most creditable display. What attracts most attention is the State House at Montgomery reproduced in corn. It is the old colonial style of architecture, with a long piazza in front which is of especial historic interest because it was here Jefferson Davis took the oath of office as President of the Southern Confederacy. Cotton as well as corn is conspicuous, though the Alabama pavilion contains about every agricultural product known to America. Commissioner Gorman says:

"We can grow pretty near anything we want to in almost any part of Alabama. A farmer comes into the State a stranger. He plants anything he wants to and gets a good crop. There is no weather like this in Alabama. Trees are in leaf there the year round. I hope this weather changes soon, but if this is the kind of weather you produce in Buffalo, then I hope to get acclimated as soon as possible."

Mr. E. S. Fursman, the corn king of Illinois, says if he were a younger man he would "pull up stakes and emigrate to Alabama." He adds: "Though I am too old to go myself, I have sent a number of young men there. It is a great State, and is going to be a greater one."

## RESOLUTIONS.

As the Normal Class of the West Florida Seminary, now in session in this place, is nearing its close, we, the students, deem it a pleasure to give expression to our appreciation of the excellent opportunities we have enjoyed for getting a clear insight into the science of teaching, and of acquiring more skill in applying the principles of education. The term has been eminently successful. The large enrollment of earnest teachers and students, and the full attendance prove that they are thoroughly alive to the importance of ripe scholarship and professional training. In consideration of all this, we resolve that we tender our thanks

First. To the Hon. State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mr. Wm. N. Sheats, whose well directed zeal and unflinching energy have secured for our State these excellent means of uplifting the standard of education by training her teachers, thereby insuring an onward march in the educational ranks throughout the State;

Second. To the Hon. J. L. M. Curry for the liberal appropriation from the Peabody Fund, and to the Hon. Board of Education of Leon county, for their appropriation, which has made it possible for us to have a three months' term.

Third. To our competent instructors, Principal L. W. Buchholz, President Murphree and the members of the faculty who by their efficient services have conferred lasting benefits upon us, each in his respective department making the way clear and hence lightening our labors. As Principal of the class, Prof. Buchholz has been untiring in his labors. He has brought clearly

before us the duties and responsibilities of the teacher, has pointed the way out of difficulties, and made plain the way to correct teaching. To him our heartiest thanks are due. As President of the Institution, Prof. Murphree has labored unceasingly to make our stay here pleasant and profitable; first securing for each and all comfortable and convenient boarding places, and since being ever ready to advise or act in our interest when necessary. To him we are indebted our most cordial thanks and we herein give expression to them.

Be it also resolved, That we appreciate the courtesies extended to the Normal students by the citizens of Tallahassee, and the kindness and hospitality shown us by the families with whom we have boarded, also that our thanks be extended to the railroad companies for favoring us with reduced rates. That copies of these resolutions be sent to the city papers for publication.

C. W. Peters, Susie Clark, Mrs. John Maige, Ellen N. Apthorp, A. T. Browning.

## MISS SARAH BEARD.

A telegram announcing the death of Miss Sarah Beard, at her home in Ferdinandina, Fla., shocked our community this morning. Until the telegram was received, none of Miss Beard's relatives in this city was aware of her illness, consequently the news of her death was like a lightning stroke out of a clear sky.

Miss Beard was too well known here to need any words from our pen. A true Christian in all that the word implied. Her life has been devoted to the care of her old mother still living at Ferdinandina, who can ill spare her devoted attendance, now 86 or 87 years old. For her mother a flood of sympathy goes out to-day from the wide circle of her friends and acquaintances here and elsewhere. Her Christian life has taught her where to go for comfort. May the great Comforter above help her bear this sorrow, which He in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to put upon her.

The funeral will take place in this city to-morrow at 10 o'clock a. m., from the Roman Catholic Church.

## C. V. "CROSSES OF HONOR."

The following card will be of interest to those Confederate veterans whose applications have been sent forward for "Crosses of Honor." As will be seen, it will be after October before any can be procured. The card is as follows:

Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Madam: I have not a cross left. I close my rooms next week; I shall not resume work until October. I shall I return your credentials and orders or shall I book them for the first delivery in October? I have several hundred on my list. Pray let me know your wish.

S. E. GABBETT.

## USES A TYPEWRITER.

Miss Nellie Bassett, recording clerk in the County Clerk's office, now uses a typewriter for transcribing onto the records all the legal documents. The machine was put in the latter part of last week, and is adjustable in a short time from the smallest letter or note sheet to the largest record book page, and does its work neatly, rapidly and thoroughly. It is quite a money saver, too, in the matter of the cost of record books, for it is a fact every one knows that more than twice as much can be typewritten on a page as can be put on the same page with pen and ink.

## A CORRECTION.

Last week the Tallahasseean stated that the National Society, Colonial Dames of America, had donated through its Florida President, Mrs. H. H. Gamble, \$85 for the relief of the Jacksonville fire sufferers. We should have said \$485. We are pleased to state further that Mrs. Gamble has received from Mrs. Howard Townsend, President of the National Society, her personal check for \$15, making the grand total \$500. The gift was a very generous one, and we regret that such an error was made.

## RETURN THESE BOOKS.

General Patrick Houstoun loaned out the following volumes of the Ridpath Library of Universal Literature, viz: numbered 7, 8, 9, 13 and 19. Those parties having any of the above books will please return the same to Mrs. Patrick Houstoun.

## STRUCK A HOUSE

Residence at Carrabelle Shattered by Lightning

NO ONE BADLY HURT

Narrow Escape of Mrs. Armstrong, and Her Little Child.

The Carrabelle residence of Train Dispatcher Armstrong, of the Carrabelle, Tallahassee & Georgia Railroad was struck by lightning Monday morning, and frightfully demolished, especially the rear end of the building.

The first intimation of the frightful affair received in this city was a telegram summoning Drs. Moore and Gwynn. No particulars were given, and of course Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong's many friends in this city suffered considerable anxiety until it was subsequently learned that no one was killed.

Mrs. Armstrong was in the kitchen, and a small child was upstairs near where the building was struck, when the crash came without a moment's warning. The child was unharmed, and Mrs. Armstrong was not struck, only being prostrated from the concussion and fright natural to such an event.

The building was completely shattered in the corner where struck, and not a piece of chinaware escaped. A baseboard (or something of that order, judging from the description) was torn off and driven into the opposite wall several inches. Reaching the first floor, the lightning scattered in every direction, ripping up a little piece of wood here and there.

The most remarkable thing is that no one was killed, but that seems to be one of lightning's traits—to play all around people without seriously hurting them.

## TEACHERS' EXAMINATION.

The regular June examinations for public school teachers in this county are going on this week—for whites at the West Florida Seminary building, and for colored at the colored graded school building. There are forty-eight white and fourteen colored applicants.

The number of whites is greatly in excess of what it would have been but for the fact that students of the Normal Department at West Florida Seminary did not have an opportunity to reach their homes after the seminary closing before the examination commenced. They are therefore taking them home.

## THE OLUSTEE MONUMENT.

The Anna Jackson Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, with the assistance of Mr. A. C. Croome, of Brooksville, and the aid of Gen. Miles and Col. Davidson, secured the passage of an act amending the act of 1899, appropriating \$2,500 for the erection of a Confederate monument. This will be good news to the different chapters of the U. D. throughout the State, and it is hoped the monument will now soon be erected to mark the battlefield of Olustee.

## S. S. PICNIC.

The annual picnic of the Methodist Sunday School will be held at Lanark to-morrow. Tickets are being sold to-day at the store of R. J. Evans, and by a committee of children at 50 cents. At the depot and on the train to-morrow tickets will cost one dollar, so you had better get one to-day if you contemplate going.

It will be a big day for the children as well as the parents who go with them. Everybody cordially invited.

## Business is Business.

He had obtained a place in a real estate office and was doing everything he could for the interests of his employers. The other evening he was at a social gathering and was asked to sing. He responded with "Home, Sweet Home." His friends were a little surprised at the selection, but he was heartily applauded. Stepping forward, he said: "I am glad you liked the song. There is nothing like 'Home, Sweet Home,' and let me say that the company I represent is selling homes on terms to suit within 12 minutes' ride of the city. Everybody ought to have a home. If you don't want to live there, it's the chance of your life for an investment."—Ex-